

## 8,000 Workers Of B.R.T. Ask 50 P. C. Raise

Dismissal of Certain Employees, Antagonistic Toward the Union, Is One of Their Fifty Demands

Strike Is Not Considered

Present Agreement Expired Yesterday, But Will Remain in Force 30 Days

Wage increases ranging from 33 to 50 per cent are demanded by 8,000 employees of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company. The executive committee of the Brooklyn unions of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America yesterday presented a new working agreement to William S. Menden, general manager of the B. R. T.

The present agreement expired yesterday. Under a continuing clause, it will remain in force for thirty days. Mr. Menden said it would take a week for the company to determine the aggregate amount of money involved in the new demand. He declared that no indication of what the company will do can be given until the facts have been turned over to Lindley M. Garrison, the receiver.

About fifty demands are made by the unions. Most of them pertain to working conditions or technical arrangements. One of the new features of the proposed scale is that employees shall not only receive time and a half for overtime, but that they shall be paid 10 cents an hour extra for all time on Sundays and legal holidays.

Other Demands Made

Other demands are:

An eight hour day and a six day week.

A twelve hour rest period after each day's work.

A reduction to six months as the minimum time for the payment of beginners' pay.

Dismissal of certain employees who are charged with being antagonistic toward the union.

Three wage agreements are proposed, affecting the surface car, shopmen and elevated and subway employees.

For motormen and conductors on the surface lines, the demand calls for 84 cents an hour for the first six months and 92 cents an hour thereafter.

The present scale is 52 and 52 cents. Ticket agents want 65 cents, and switchmen, car cleaners, watchmen and gatekeepers, 55 cents.

Strike Not Considered

The motormen on the subways and elevated roads are not affected, as they belong to another union. For subway and elevated conductors, the pay asked is 87 to 90 cents, for guards, \$2 to \$5, and for ticket agents, 70 to 75.

The shopmen want an increase aggregating 33 per cent.

The possibility of a strike was not considered, according to Edwin L. Smith, chairman of the employees' committee. He said the demands had been left with the company with the understanding that an answer would be given within thirty days.

Frank Bacon Marks 35th Anniversary of Wedding

Secret of "Lightnin'" Star's Vacation Is Out; Wife Was Childhood Sweetheart

Like his own "Lightnin'" Bill Jones, Frank Bacon was telling tales when he said he had taken a vacation from the play at the Gaiety Theater in order to cut hay on his place at Bay-side. The real occasion of his absence is out, having been concealed with characteristic modesty from friends who might have seen remembrances. The vacation was taken to celebrate the thirty-fifth anniversary of his wedding. Jennie Weidman, the sweetheart of his boyhood, is his wife. The formal observance was yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bacon spent the day at their Bay-side home with their widowed daughter, Bessie, who plays in "Lightnin'", and two grandchildren, Joan and Betty. Mr. Bacon's best pals, Mr. and Mrs. Bacon were married in San José, Calif. They had attended the same education school and participated in the same local amateur productions. They were married before either had appeared on the professional stage. They started their careers together on their honeymoon with a traveling dramatic company. To-day they have happy memories of the old barnstorming days and of the struggles which attended a thirty-five years' pilgrimage to Broadway.

Gifts

Half the world thinks of Ovington's when it thinks of gifts, and the other half thanks it for remembering. The prices, as usual, are fair.

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314 Fifth Ave. n. 32d St.

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Thos. Leeming & Co., N. Y.

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## The Stage Door

Nancy Gibbs, a popular young London actress whose smile is said to be the prettiest on the English stage, is to sing Lady Mary Carlisle in "Monsieur Beaucaire" on tour the coming season. She is a brunette, and her voice is a very high soprano, just the voice for Lady Mary's music. She is appearing now in "Jig Saw" in the London Hippodrome. Mr. Erlanger is organizing the company. With two exceptions the principals will be the same that played here last season in the New Amsterdam Theater.

Chorus rehearsals have begun in the Lyric Theater for George Le Maire's "Broadway Broovies," a new revue that will have a New York hearing early in September.

Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford saw the Ziegfeld Follies last night. They were particularly interested in an act called "Mary and Doug," of rather involved kinetics, presented by Mary Eaton and Carl Randall.

"The Hole in the Wall" is being recast by Arons & Seitz for an opening in Brooklyn September 6.

Mildred Kents, sixteen-year-old danseuse, last seen in "Hitchy Koo," will furnish toe taps for "Pitter Patter." Helen Belton, who has made a name in vampire parts, also is in the cast.

A solemn high requiem mass for Jerry J. Cohan will be celebrated at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Broadway at Seventy-first Street, at 10 o'clock Monday morning. Friends of the family are invited.

"Under Crimson Skies," a melodramatic photoplay of storms and mutiny at sea, gun running and Central American revolution, will open at the Astor Theater Sunday. It is a Universal-Jewel production, starring Eino Lincoln.

Among those who had dinner at the Century Promenade last evening, remaining for "The Century Revue" and "The Midnight Rounders," were Vincent Astor, Lou Tellegen and Geraldine Farrar.

Julius Tannen, a headliner in vaudeville, has been engaged by Nora Bayes for an important role in her new musical play, "Hier Family Tree."

John Phillip Sousa had his first rehearsal of the season at Carnegie Hall yesterday, his entire band of seventy pieces being present. The twenty-eighth anniversary of Sousa's Band will be celebrated at a gala performance at the Hippodrome Sunday, September 26. Marjorie Mooney, soprano; Winifred Bambrick, harpist; John Dolan, cornet virtuoso, and George J. Carey, xylophonist, are now solo members of the organization. The band will open its season at Norwalk, Conn.

Charles H. Christie, general manager of the Christie Film Company, will come to New York this week from Los Angeles to take up details for more special productions from his studios. The first two Christie comedies to appear in New York are "Kiss Me, Caroline," and "A Seaside Siren," at the Rialto.

Ames to Retire August 31

WASHINGTON, July 28.—Judge C. B. Ames will retire August 31 as first assistant to the Attorney General. It became known to-day that he had submitted his resignation to President Wilson and would resume his law practice in Oklahoma City.

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## Jokes at Last Have a Place In Musical Shows

"Poor Little Ritz Girl" at the Central Is Unusually Amusing, With the Lyrics and Book Above Average

By Heywood Brown

"Poor Little Ritz Girl," produced at the Central Theater last night, is an amusing and ingenious musical comedy. It stands head and shoulders above any of its recent rivals, because in addition to all the ordinary paraphernalia of musical comedy the producer has taken the pains to add a few jokes. "I am so used to rehearsing," remarks one of the chorus girl characters, "that I begin to dance the minute anybody swears at me."

The neglected lyric also gets more of its due than usual, for the song entitled "Ain't It Awful What They Done to Mary Queen of Scots" seems to us the most relishing ballad we have heard in a twelve month. It is perhaps fitting to mention at the outset that Richard C. Rogers composed the music for this ditty as well as that for another excellent song, called "What Happened Nobody Knows." The more serious and sentimental songs are from Sigmund Romberg, and they are pleasing to us because of the way in which they are handled. Lorenz M. Hart and Alex. Gerber did the lyrics, and George Campbell and Lew Fields wrote the book. Mr. Fields is also the producer.

The play deals with the private and public lives of chorus girls and the authors owe a certain debt to Avery Hopwood's "Gold Diggers" for the manner in which the material is handled. One of the scenes is also reminiscent of the hypnotic episode in "The Affairs of Anatol." However, even if the authors have occasionally listened to the swamping of other lyrics it seems to us that they should be praised for having picked their models with discretion. The average musical comedy is copied after the one which was produced the month before. "Poor Little Ritz Girl" may serve to break the endless chain. It shows an effort to put an ear to the ground rather than at the crack of the stage door across the street. Indeed, one of the lyric writers has gone far enough from Forty-second Street to have heard Dr. Freud, and has composed a song, called "You Can't Fool Your Dreams," which shows at least a working knowledge of the theory of the unconscious.

All this we hold is unusual and

praiseworthy in the field of musical comedy. And yet we have no desire to handicap the producer of "Poor Little Ritz Girl" by suggesting that his piece is to any large degree a highbrow musical show. Persons fall and signal over the heads of visiting aunts and pop out of bedrooms unexpectedly and unpropitiously in quite the accustomed manner. In fact, Miss Lulu McConnell, the most amusing member of the company, employs as much physical effort in her comedy scenes as Babe Ruth ever put into a home run swing. Like the Babe, she misses now and then, but her energy is engaging, and there are lines and situations which she bats across the footlights to the back of the house. The Mary Queen of Scots songs is here, and she makes the most of it.

Charles Purcell sings very well indeed, but plays much less effectively. Andrew Tombes, however, gives a delightful performance, and there is also good work by Florence Webber and Eugenie Blair. Eleanor Griffith is an attractive heroine, but she was so nervous last night that it is difficult to say whether or not her voice is an asset. The chorus has more lines than usual and acquires itself excellently.

"Poor Little Ritz Girl" is a good show.

Five Plead Not Guilty of Motor Theft Plot

Conspiracy to Steal Autos in Neighboring States Is Federal Charge

Five men indicted as violators of the national motor vehicle act by conspiracy to steal automobiles in neighboring states and dispose of them in this city appeared before Federal District Judge William B. Sheppard yesterday and entered pleas of not guilty.

They were John E. Tench, of Holliswood Hall, Hollis, L. I.; Robert Grogan, former garage of the automobile in license division of the Secretary of State's office in New York City; Orlando Claude Stevens, now held in the Tombs; Morris Ginsburg, and Christopher E. Flynn. The indictments were drawn by Louis D. Schwartz, Assistant United States Attorney.

Judge Sheppard fixed Tench's bond at \$2,000 and allowed him a week in which to change his plea. Grogan was placed under \$5,000 bail and his trial was set for August 18. Stevens was held in \$5,000 bail and his trial set for August 4. Trial dates for Ginsburg and Flynn will be set later.

Photograph Supply Exhausted Soon

Then they toured Europe in twenty-one days. They visited France, Holland, Coblenz, the Swiss Alps and lakes, the Italian Alps and lakes, the Riviera, Venice, Padua, Genoa, Monte Carlo, and then to Cherbourg. Before they had got clear of France there were no more photographs and more had to be made.

They motored and yachted and goggled. They found the food excellent in Holland and Switzerland. Fairbanks said that travelers on the Continent now eat by countries and not by restaurants. Switzerland and Holland, he said, were full of fat American tourists, and all the scrawny ones were in Italy.

Mary came back with a contract. It was her first trip abroad, and she is proud of the agreement made in Paris

the city four days, and then off they go to California.

Lord and Lady Camoys were on board Robert Newton Crane, United States dispatch agent at London, returned for a holiday in California. Festus Wade, well-known St. Louis financier, came back from the International Chamber of Commerce meeting in Paris. Ian Hay Beith, the British author and playwright, is here in behalf of his play, "Happy Go Lucky." There were 2,065 passengers in all.

MARK STRAND

STEEPLECHASE

LUNA FREE CIRCUS

WINTER GARDEN

CINDERELLA ON BROADWAY

ATOP CENTURY THEATRE

CENTURY PROMENADE

MIDNIGHT ROUNDERS

CENTRAL

CHARLES PURCELL

"POOR LITTLE RITZ GIRL"

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BIJOU

THE CHARM SCHOOL

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THE AMERICANS IN FRANCE

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COME SEVEN!

"LASSIE"

PLAYHOUSE

SEEING THINGS

Little Theatre

"FOOT-LOOSE"

EMILY STEVENS

VANDERBILT

IRENE

SELWYN

Ed. Wynn Carnival

NEW YORK'S LEADING THEATRE

NEW AMSTERDAM THEATRE

ZIEGFELD FOLLIES

ATOP CENTURY THEATRE

GEORGE WHITE'S

SCANDALS OF 1920

LIBERTY

THE NIGHT BOAT

GLOBE

ASTOR THEATRE

THE BREATH OF GODS

BROADWAY

UP IN MARY'S ATTIC

CAPITOL

## Crowds Welcome Fairbanks And Mary Pickford Home

Douglas Fairbanks and his wife, Mary Pickford, arrived here yesterday on the Olympic from Cherbourg and Southampton, and made their way to the Ritz with two brass bands, a procession of twenty-five automobiles filled with Friars and a police escort. It was the lunch hour when they started along the waterfront across Twenty-third Street and up Fifth Avenue to Fifty-eighth Street, and a good part of New York stood and waved at them.

They occupied the bridal suite on the Olympic and did not venture onto the ship all the way across. On the trip from Quarantine to the pier along they photographed 873 pictures brought to them by the ship's crew.

Lampo is what the Italians call Fairbanks. It means lightning. Lampo received reporters in his rooms while Mary checked off the members of the crew as she signed pictures, and told about the trip. He said that in England, where they stayed nine days, they could not go anywhere without blocking traffic, and had to escape from the Ritz in London by way of the kitchen, Lampo disguised with a curly mustache and Mary wearing glasses and doddering along like an old woman.

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